

Mid-East Prophecy Update – April 17th, 2011

- Every week, we set aside a few minutes on Sunday mornings to look at Bible prophecy
- The reason for this is because the Bible predicts certain events that will take place in the last days before the Lord returns.
- We believe that what's happening in the world today is a fulfillment of those Bible Prophecies.

- We look primarily at events in the Middle East, specifically related to Israel because, as it's been said; "Israel is God's prophetic clock."

- As I'm sure you're aware, today is "Palm Sunday," as it's come to be known, because it is the day in which Jesus made His "Triumphal Entry."
- It was on this day that Jesus the Christ in one week, would be both tried, and crucified, only to rise from the dead after three days in the tomb.
- It's on this canvass of that Palm Sunday, we'll paint the prophecy leading to Resurrection Sunday, with a brush of similarities on this Sunday.

Luke 19:29-44 KJV And it came to pass, when he was come nigh to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount called *the mount* of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, (30) Saying, **Go ye into the village over against you; in the which at your entering ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat: loose him, and bring him hither.** (31) **And if any man ask you, Why do ye loose him? thus shall ye say unto him, Because the Lord hath need of him.** (32) And they that were sent went their way, and found even as he had said unto them. (33) And as they were loosing the colt, the owners thereof said unto them, Why loose ye the colt? (34) And they said, The Lord hath need of him. (35) And they brought him to Jesus: and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Jesus thereon. (36) And as he went, they spread their clothes in the way. (37) And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; (38) Saying, Blessed *be* the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest. (39) And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. (40) And he answered and said unto them, **I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.** (41) And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, (42) Saying, **If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.** (43) **For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, (44) And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.**

- Now, let's fast forward to this Sunday and look at Bible prophecy that hits closer to home, in concert with what's happening in the Mid-East.
- While our focus has been on the events of the Middle-East, we need to see how it fits with what's happening here in the U.S. and in Hawaii.
- In order to do this, we'll look at a number of headlines from just a 48 hour period last week, which I believe says it all as it relates to prophecy.

- [NEW WORLD POWERS PUSH FOR END OF DOLLAR DOMINANCE...](#)
- [Dollar not Sick it's Terminal](#)
- [EUR and Dollar trade on fear](#)
- [Dollar takes punishment from government shutdown debacle](#)
- [Sliding Dollar Spurs Inflation Debate](#)
- [Gold rises above \\$1460/oz](#)
- [State of Utah Recognizes Gold Coins As Money](#)
- [Oil Prices Look to Top \\$150 by Midsummer On Resilient Demand and ...](#)
- [Wells Fargo Tests Microchip Credit Cards for Globetrotting Clients](#)
- [World stocks hit by Greek debt, China inflation](#)
- [Inflation Actually Near 10% Using Older Measure](#)
- [Democratic senator wants Internet sales taxes](#)
- [US must tackle government deficit, says IMF report](#)
- [World Bank supports Palestinian state](#)
- [Global stocks knocked by Japan nuclear worries](#)

- The common denominator in all these and the countless more time doesn't permit is how they speak to an imminent global economic collapse.
- Knowing this is doom and gloom, let me hasten to say, Bible prophecy is clear in that there will be a one world economy under the Anti-Christ.
- This means at some point there has to be an economic crash of all the worlds currencies, and if you haven't noticed, that's where it's heading.

- Now, here's the question; "how bad will it get for us here in Hawaii, before the rapture?" Will we suffer as Christians before we're taken out?
- The answer to this, is simply this; "we don't know for sure." What we do know is that the rapture takes place before the tribulation begins.
- However, what we don't know is how much difficulty, hardship, and even persecution we may suffer, prior to the rapture of the bride of Christ.

- The reality is, people are losing their jobs, their houses, and their cars, which even if they were to keep, may soon cost \$5 -\$10 a gallon to fill.
- Some have taken the posture of preparing for the future to the degree in which they sort of become what some call; "Christian Survivalists."
- A commonly quoted verse, as it relates to being prudent about impending danger ahead is found in Proverbs chapter twenty-two verse three.

Proverbs 22:3 NIV A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it.

- So, Pastor, what then should we do? Well, we should all go buy land on the Big Island and grow our crops so we can survive what's coming!
- Please know that I am being facetious. Be that as it may, if that is what you know the Lord is leading you, and calling you to do, then do it!
- However, I would encourage you to examine your heart as to why you are doing it. Is it to only take care of yourself, or to reach out to others.

- Here's what I'm thinking; should the Lord tarry, and we go through a time of unspeakable difficulty, it could be a time of wonderful opportunity.
- Who knows, maybe the Lord will provide for you, for such a time as this, in order that you can provide that which your brother may also need.

Corrie ten Boom, who, as a Dutch survivor of the Nazi Concentration Camps during World War II, became a lifelong missionary after seeing her family murdered in front of her eyes, had this to say about overcoming tribulation and persecution; "The world is deathly ill. It is dying. The Great Physician has already signed the death certificate. Yet there is still a great work for Christians to do. They are to be streams of living water, channels of mercy to those who are still in the world. It is possible for them to do this because they are overcomers. ... Sometimes I get frightened as I read the Bible, and as I look in this world and see all of the tribulation and persecution promised by the Bible coming true. Now I can tell you, though, if you too are afraid, that I have just read the last pages. I can now come to shouting "Hallelujah! Hallelujah!" for I have found where it is written that Jesus said, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things: and I will be His God, and he shall be My son." This is the future and hope of this world. Not that the world will survive — but that we shall be overcomers in the midst of a dying world.

1 John 3:16-17 NIV (16) This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. (17) If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?

- Now, how is all of this similar to Palm Sunday? Well, I'm so glad you asked! Consider with me the following parallels between then and now:

1. We too are saying; "blessed be King Jesus that cometh," and even though the stones would cry out, some rebuke us who are saying this.
2. So too Jesus says; "if though hadst known even thou, at least in this the last days," as He weeps over the world as His coming draws near.
3. The world will say; "because we knewest not the time of our visitation, we recognized not the one Who will come, thus destruction is coming."